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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Thursday April 21, 1977 CG NIDC 77-92C

State Dept. review completed

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Thursday, April 21, 1977.

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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FRANCE-ZAIRE: European Reaction

25X1 [] // French President Giscard's recent interest in a West European policy aimed at encouraging moderate forces in Africa and restraining Angolan support for the Katangans in Zaire apparently is not shared by some West European countries.//

25X1 [] //At a meeting on Monday of EC foreign ministers in London, the Italian representative reportedly took a dim view of French efforts to act for Western Europe in Africa. He argued that internationalization of the conflict in Shaba is a mistake and that unilateral French actions--apparently such as the airlifting of Moroccan troops to Zaire--could draw other West European states into the conflict without their prior consent.//

25X1 [] //The Netherlands, Ireland, and Denmark also were said to fear that Zaire could become "another Angola" with the West backing the losing side. West Germany and Belgium, however, joined France in advocating an EC statement that would publicly support Zairian President Mobutu and approve French action.//

25X1 [] //Despite the reservations raised at the meeting, there is nonetheless a widespread view in Western Europe that the invasion of Shaba reflects an attempt by Moscow to extend its influence in southern Africa and that the West must counter the Soviets there. This view is shared by the UK--Prime Minister Callaghan last weekend warned the Soviets against meddling in Africa--and West Germany, which has just granted over \$2 million in new humanitarian aid for Zaire.//

25X1 [] //Giscard's initiatives on Africa are directed in part at his domestic opponents. He has won acclaim from the Gaullists, now pressing him from the right, for a dramatic move in foreign policy taken independently of the US. His ability to surmount leftist criticism, however, will depend largely on a successful outcome to events in Zaire. []

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PAKISTAN: Violence Continues

25X1 [REDACTED] //Violence continues in Pakistan. The opposition is intensifying its efforts to bring down Prime Minister Bhutto, but he is apparently determined to hang on to power. The army remains reluctant to intervene and would be likely to do so only when it became clear that there was no alternative--a point which could be reached in a matter of days.//

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25X1 [REDACTED] Two alternatives to military intervention, neither of which the US embassy believes is likely, would be the assumption of power by figure-head President Chaudhry or Bhutto's being voted out of office by the National Assembly, in which his party has an overwhelming majority. Should the army decide to move, it might prefer to operate under the cover of presidential rule, rather than to set up a military government.

25X1 [REDACTED] Despite the army's reluctance to act, it may soon face a choice between intervention and a complete breakdown of law and order. The opposition appears to have decided to increase the level of violence and to paralyze the country through general strikes.

25X1 [REDACTED] //A general strike yesterday in Karachi and other cities in the Sind apparently was a success, stopping almost all economic activity. Clashes between the opposition and Bhutto's supporters--who have also taken to the streets--left as many as 18 dead, and the city is again under a curfew enforced by the army.// There are reports of violence in other cities in the Sind and the Punjab, with shooting and arson by both sides.

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[REDACTED] There were major demonstrations in other cities yesterday, including Lahore, Peshawar, and Quetta, the other three provincial capitals. A general strike is called for the Punjab on Friday and, at least in Rawalpindi, is scheduled to continue until Bhutto leaves office.

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VIETNAM: Scattered Resistance

25X1 [] Dissident activity continues nearly two years after the communist victory in Vietnam. Resistance is scattered throughout the southern zone but is a problem primarily in the central highlands, the Mekong delta, and the larger cities. The resistance is made up largely of former South Vietnamese soldiers and members of ethnic and religious groups traditionally opposed to any government in power.

25X1 [] The communist regime has moved with relative restraint against the religious organizations, trying to defuse gradually the lingering resistance of such groups as the An Quang Buddhists and the militant Hoa Hao Buddhists by isolating and discrediting their leaders. //Hoa Hao resistance has diminished in recent months. The sect's guerrilla forces are operating in increasingly isolated areas, are suffering shortages of ammunition and medical supplies, and generally are avoiding contact with government troops.//

25X1 [] The An Quang and some Catholics are continuing to resist complete political accommodation with the regime. The An Quang protested the seating of several delegates from pro-communist front groups at a recent Buddhist congress, but their show of independence has brought threats of a harsher government crackdown.



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USSR: SA-8s in East Germany

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the SA-8 surface-to-air tactical missile system is in service with Soviet forces in East Germany.

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This is the first time that the system has appeared outside of the USSR.

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The SA-8 is a highly mobile, short-range, low-to-medium altitude system with command-guided missiles. It is designed to provide local air defense for ground forces. The system first went to units in the USSR in 1974.

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Unlike other sophisticated Soviet air defense systems currently in use, each SA-8 vehicle is a self-contained firing unit. Each unit consists of four missiles, an acquisition radar, and a fire control unit mounted on an amphibious vehicle.

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The SA-8 is designed to complement other Soviet surface-to-air missiles and antiaircraft guns. The system will improve the Soviets' air defense capability in East Germany, particularly against low-flying aircraft and helicopters.

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BELGIUM: Government Formation

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[redacted] Formal consultations on the formation of a new Belgian coalition government are likely to begin next week, although agreement may not be reached for some months. In the meantime, Prime Minister Tindemans, strengthened by recent election results, will continue to head a caretaker government.

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[redacted] Tindemans' Social Christian Party made substantial gains in the parliamentary election last Sunday. The Liberal Party, Tindemans' former coalition partner, merely held its own, as did the Socialists. The small linguistic parties in Flanders and Wallonia did poorly.

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[redacted] Tindemans will probably try to form a two-party coalition with the Socialists, which would give the government strength in all three areas of the country--Flanders, Wallonia, and Brussels--as well as just enough votes in parliament for a two-thirds majority. An attempt to form such a coalition after the previous election failed.

25X1 [] During the recent campaign, Tindemans indicated a desire to form a three-party coalition of Social Christians, Socialists, and Liberals. Should negotiations with the Socialists fail, his increased strength would allow him to form a two-party coalition with only the Liberals.

25X1 [] A two-party government would be weak in French-speaking Wallonia and Brussels. If Tindemans expects to make any progress in dealing with Belgium's thorny linguistic and economic problems, he must form a government with a majority in all three areas of the country. []

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WEST GERMANY: Solar Heat System

25X1 [] *A West German firm says it has produced a commercial version of an advanced solar heat collector system for residential heating and cooling.*

25X1 [] This system differs from other commercial solar heat collectors in that it uses heat pipes containing a special evaporating fluid, rather than water or air, to transport heat from the collector surfaces to the storage unit. Using such heat pipes significantly lowers heat loss between collection and storage and increases system effectiveness.

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25X1 [] Experimental residential solar collector systems using heat pipes were designed and built as early as 1973, but Dornier is apparently the first firm to market a commercial version. Heat pipes were developed to support space power systems. They can transfer large amounts of heat over considerable distances at efficiencies of 90 percent or more with almost no temperature drop.

25X1 [] A heat pipe consists of a sealed tube lined with a porous capillary wick saturated with a volatile fluid. Heat applied to one end vaporizes the fluid and causes the vapor to travel to the other end, where it condenses and gives up heat. The condensed fluid then returns to the original end by capillary action.

25X1 [] Dornier says its solar heating and cooling system using heat pipes provides a shorter response time and simpler, more effective control. The system was successfully tested in a West German home for over two years. If Dornier can produce it at a competitive cost and develop foreign markets, the company could gain the edge in the very rapidly growing market for residential solar heating and cooling systems. []

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SOUTH KOREA - SUDAN: Relations

25X1 [] Sudan's decision to upgrade its ties with South Korea to full diplomatic relations marks the first time a country has done this after first recognizing North Korea. The move is especially important to South Korea because the North has had greater diplomatic momentum since 1972, winning recognition from 47 states that had recognized South Korea earlier.

25X1 [] Sudan's upgrading of relations with South Korea was formalized in Seoul during the visit earlier this month of the number-two man in the Sudanese Foreign Ministry. Sudan's interest in an exchange of ambassadors, however, began last year. President Numayri hinted in September that Sudan would substantially increase diplomatic support for South Korea if Seoul would finance construction of five luxury apartments for use during the Organization of African Unity summit in Khartoum next year.

25X1 [] Details on the apartment project are still to be settled, but South Korea apparently will contract the work to a private construction firm, which in turn will receive long-term loans from South Korea's export-import bank. Government loans will also be used to finance exports, contributing to a total assistance package of about \$85 million.

25X1 [] //Sudan's interest in closer relations with South Korea also reflects Saudi Arabia's diplomatic activities on Seoul's behalf. The Saudis were instrumental in negotiating

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the establishment of consular relations between South Korea and Sudan last year, and Numayri's sense of urgency in upgrading relations may mirror a desire on his part to obtain additional financial aid from the Saudis.//

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COLOMBIA: Lopez' Troubles Mounting

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Colombia is facing a number of political and economic problems that are likely to cause difficulties for President Lopez during the remaining 16 months of his term.

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Since he came to power in 1974, Lopez has been determined to redistribute wealth and reduce the country's high inflation. By employing politically risky measures, such

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as increasing taxes and curtailing government borrowing, he reduced inflation in 1975, but at the same time he slowed the economic growth rate to its lowest point in 10 years.

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[] Last year, the influx of large foreign exchange earnings from windfall coffee prices and illegal narcotics exports helped to boost the growth rate, but the expansion of aggregate demand rekindled inflation. Real wages continue to diminish, and unemployment remains high as a result of the anti-inflation program. The announcement of a 4.1-percent cost-of-living increase last month brought forth a threat of trade union protests on May 1.

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[] Protesting the failure of the President's anti-inflation program, Colombia's leftist-influenced labor unions have encouraged strikes in both the public and private sectors over the past two years. These disturbances worsened the tensions between the government and the military caused by the frequent kidnappings of prominent persons by extremists. Setting aside his libertarian concepts, Lopez was forced to curtail some civil liberties, to impose a state of siege on two occasions, and to call out the army to quell the disturbances.

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[] Scandals concerning alleged improprieties on the part of Lopez' sons have further clouded the political scene and have focused some of the criticism away from the extremists and on the President himself. It is likely that the broad support Lopez enjoyed upon taking office will continue to diminish. The disillusionment of many former Lopez supporters stems not only from demonstrations and scandals, but also from their belief that he has failed to accomplish the goals to which he has assigned high priority. Even the military's support has waned in light of Lopez' difficulty in maintaining public order and achieving economic stability.

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[] In spite of the increasing disenchantment with the President, we see no evidence that he is likely to be challenged seriously by either civilian or military groups. Most Colombians have a strong attachment to their country's democratic institutions. Moreover, most political leaders want to avoid giving the armed forces a pretext for political intervention.

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